

Response to Amendment

This office action is in response to the amendment filed on 12/15/2009.

Claims 1-18 and 27 - 33 are pending for examination. Claims 1, 7, 13 and 27-28 have been amended. Claims 29-33 are newly added.

Terminal Disclaimer

The terminal disclaimer filed on 12/15/2009 disclaiming the terminal portion of any patent granted on this application which would extend beyond the expiration date of U.S. Patent No. 6,493,720 has been reviewed and is accepted. The terminal disclaimer has been recorded.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-18 and 27 - 33 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1, 7, 13 and 27-28, are allowable, because the prior art on record or that encountered in searching for the invention, failed to disclose or suggest the features of instant invention – "registering source data in an information catalog which allows a user to define functional objects for creating user-defined object types and using a metadata synchronizer to detect change made in the registered source data for selectively refreshing metadata in the information

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catalog to reflect the detected change" in a combination with all the limitations as claimed by applicant.

Claims 2-6, 8 -12, 14 -18 and 29 - 33 depend on claims 1, 7, 13 and 27-28 respectively, hence, are allowable by inherency.

Points of Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SUSAN Y. CHEN whose telephone number is (571)272-4016. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 7:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mofiz Apu can be reached on 571-272-4080. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Etienne P LeRoux/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2161

/Susan Y Chen/
Partial Sig. Examiner
Art Unit 2161

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